

Appl. No. 10/725,960
Response dated February 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 18, 2004

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the abstract as follows:

Method for consolidating an earth stratum situated in a subgrade by withdrawing water that is present in there from it, comprising the stepwise arrangement from the surface of the soil, at some depth, of vertical drain draining means, such as drains drainage strips, in the earth stratum, the arrangement of horizontal drainage provided by a means, such as drainage pipe or pipes, in the upper area of the earth stratum and connecting them to the vertical drain drainage means for water transfer between them, the arrangement of an air sealing layer directly over the horizontal drainage pipes means and the closing of the surface of the soil, as well as the connection of the horizontal drainage means pipes to a pump for discharge of the water.